

## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

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Tuesday, November 21, 2017, 6:00 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common

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Present: Selectboard members Jim Barlow and Chris Martin; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Vivian Davis; Fire Fighters Will Schwarz, Tim Maclay, and Tim Morris; Will Walters (Hardwick Gazette)

At 6:00 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin

**Changes or additions to the agenda:** none

**Public Comment:** none

**Review and Approval of Minutes:** The Board approved the minutes from November 1<sup>st</sup> with one correction to a citation.

**Davis vicious dog order:** Vivian Davis attended the meeting at the request of the Selectboard. The Selectboard's order stated that she must erect a metal fence sufficient to confine the dogs. She feels that the plastic snow fence across the front of her property is sufficient because the dogs can't see the road and the fence is holding up a fallen tree. Chris explained that it is the Board's job to keep people safe on the road. She indicated that nothing has happened since the fence was put up. Jim stated that what has been done does not comply with the order. He suggested that the Board could amend the order to allow a metal kennel. Ms. Davis stated that she could not afford anything else. Chris explained that if the dogs get out again, the Town will have no choice but to have them euthanized. Jim stated that it is inexcusable to allow a dog to bite a child, and he will have zero tolerance if the dog bites another person. He explained that the Town does have the authority to require the dogs to be muzzled, chained, kenneled, or euthanized. He moved to amend the order. He asked Bobbi to draft an amendment and circulate it. Chris seconded – all in favor.

**Marshfield Dam:** At the recent meeting, Green Mountain Power indicated that if there is a problem at the Dam, they give notice to the Fire Department and their responsibility ends at that point. Jim asked the Fire Department to explain the protocol the Fire Department follows at that point. Tim Maclay explained that he will put a person at the dam, and evacuate homes that will be affected. There are maps that were provided after Tropical Storm Irene, to aid the Fire Department in their evacuation. Will Schwarz noted that communication is always difficult but the notification procedure has been improved. Tim Morris noted another concern is the path that the water would take in the event of a controlled release; the Route 232 bridge and the culvert under Route 2 are not large enough to take the amount of water that would be released.

**Loader purchase and financing options:** The Board reviewed the lease agreement but it does not include the terms of the lease in writing. The Board will wait to make a decision until they have the terms in writing to make a comparison.

**Northeast Kingdom Solid Waste District:** Chris has received questions about why the Town switched from the Central Vermont Solid Waste District to the Northeast Kingdom district. The Town switched because there was a fee to belong to the Central Vermont district, and there were concerns about the way the Central Vermont district was being managed. The Cabot recycling facility can take e-waste, and there will be a hazardous waste collection at the Old Schoolhouse Common next summer.

**Health Insurance Renewal:** Bobbi explained the health insurance options for town employees. Jim moved to continue paying for the Bronze HDHP plan that the town has been providing, and hold the employee harmless for anything over \$3,000 per family as we have in the past. Chris seconded – all in favor.

**Stranahan Town Forest:** Rich asked the Board for clarification of the conflict of interest policy regarding membership on the Stranahan Stewardship Committee.

**Personnel:** Shane Brickey requested to take a week's vacation. According to the personnel policy, employees are not eligible for vacation until they have been with the town for 6 months. The Board did not feel that they could grant the request in light of the personnel policy.

**File Cabinets:** The Board told Bobbi to advertise them for \$25 each.

**Budget discussions:** The Board reviewed the draft budget submitted by the Road Foreman.

**Lanesboro Road:** the vehicles have been removed from the right of way.

**School Board vacancy:** Jim moved to reappoint Jill Wilson, whose schedule has changed so that she has time to fulfill the duties. Chris seconded – all in favor.

**Lister:** The Board noted that Karen O'Donnell had resigned on October 10, 2017. The Board thanks her for her service.

**Expenses, Permits & Payroll:** Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll. They executed the contract with Larry Lakus for snow removal on the village sidewalks.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the November 21, 2017 Selectboard Meeting.  
A True Record. Attest, \_\_\_\_\_, Town Clerk

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